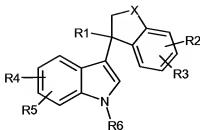


Amendments to the Claims

- I. (Original) A compound of the formula:



Formula I

wherein,

X represents  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{S}-$ , or  $-\text{CH}_2\text{NR}^{10}-$ ;

$\text{R}^1$  represents hydrogen,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_7)\text{cycloalkyl}$ , hydroxy $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ , halo $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl-heterocycle}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl-NH}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkylamine}$ , or  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl-N,N}-(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{dialkylamine}$ ;

$\text{R}^2$  represents hydrogen, halo,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ , heterocycle, or substituted heterocycle;

$\text{R}^3$  represents hydrogen, halo,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ , heterocycle, or substituted heterocycle;

$\text{R}^4$  represents hydrogen, halo, amino, nitro,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkoxy}$ ,

$\text{NHSO}_2\text{R}^7$ ,  $\text{NHCOR}^8$ , or  $\text{COR}^9$ ;

$\text{R}^5$  represents hydrogen or halo;

$\text{R}^6$  represents hydrogen or  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ;

$\text{R}^7$  represents  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ , aryl,  $\text{NH}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkylamine}$ , or  $\text{N,N}-(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{dialkylamine}$ ;

$\text{R}^8$  represents  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkoxy}$ , or aryl $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkoxy}$ ;

$\text{R}^9$  represents  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$  or  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkoxy}$ , and

$\text{R}^{10}$  represents hydrogen,  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_7)\text{cycloalkyl}$ , or  $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4)\text{alkyl}-(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_7)\text{cycloalkyl}$ ,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein X represents  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$ , or  $-\text{CH}_2\text{S}-$ .

3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 2 wherein X represents  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ , or  $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$ .

4. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3 wherein X represents  $-\text{CH}_2-$  or  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ .

5. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3 wherein X represents  $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$ .

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 6 1 wherein  $\text{R}^1$  represents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl,  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_7)\text{cycloalkyl}$ , hydroxy $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ , halo $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl-heterocycle}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl-NH}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkylamine}$ , or  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl-N,N}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{dialkylamine}$ .

8. (Original) The compound according to Claim 7 wherein  $\text{R}^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl,  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_7)\text{cycloalkyl}$ , hydroxy $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ , halo $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl-heterocycle}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl-NH}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkylamine}$ , or  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl-N,N}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{dialkylamine}$ .

9. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-8~~ Claim 1 wherein  $\text{R}^2$  represents hydrogen, halo, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, heterocycle, or substituted heterocycle.

10. (Original) The compound according to Claim 9 wherein  $\text{R}^2$  represents hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, ethyl, propyl, or isopropyl.

11. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-10~~  
Claim 1 wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, or bromo.

12. (Original) The compound according to Claim 11 wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen or fluoro.

13. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-12~~  
Claim 1 wherein R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, halo, amino, nitro, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>, NHCOR<sup>8</sup> wherein R<sup>8</sup> represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, or COR<sup>9</sup> wherein R<sup>9</sup> represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy.

14. (Original) The compound according to Claim 13 wherein R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, halo, amino, nitro, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, or NH SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>.

15. (Original) The compound according to Claim 14 wherein R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, halo, amino, nitro, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, or NH SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup> wherein R<sup>7</sup> represents (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, aryl, or N,N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)dialkylamine.

16. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-15~~  
Claim 1 wherein R<sup>5</sup> represents hydrogen, chloro, or fluoro.

17. (Original) The compound according to Claim 16 wherein R<sup>5</sup> represents hydrogen.

18. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-17~~  
Claim 1 wherein R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl.

19. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-18~~ Claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

- 20. (Cancelled)
- 21. (Cancelled)
- 22. (Cancelled)
- 23. (Cancelled)
- 24. (Cancelled)
- 25. (Cancelled)

26. (New) A method of treating a disorder selected from the group consisting of diastolic or systolic congestive heart failure, inflammation, rheumatoid arthritis, hypertension, asthma, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

27. (New) The method according to Claim 26 wherein the disorder is diastolic or systolic congestive heart failure, inflammation, hypertension, or rheumatoid arthritis.

28. (New) A method of treating atherosclerosis comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (New) A compound which is N-[3-(1-Ethyl-5-fluoro-indan-1-yl)-1H-indol-7-yl]-methanesulfonamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. (New) A compound which is N-[3-(6-Fluoro-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indol-7-yl]-methanesulfonamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

31. (New) A compound which is N-[3-(6,8-Difluoro-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indol-7-yl]-methanesulfonamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

32. (New) A compound which is N-[3-(4-Ethyl-7-fluoro-chroman-4-yl)-1H-indol-7-yl]-methanesulfonamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

33. (New) A compound which is N-[3-(1-Cyclopropyl-5-fluoro-indan-1-yl)-1H-indol-7-yl]-methanesulfonamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.